



Help us report to the United Nations about:
Supporting children whose rights are most at risk

Monday 31st October 2022

Website: www.togetherscotland.org.uk Follow us on Twitter! @together_sacr



Together **(Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights)**

An alliance of 110 NGOs and 300+ individual members working to improve the awareness, understanding and implementation of children's human rights in Scotland.

Vision:

All children and young people growing up in Scotland have their human rights respected, protected and fulfilled.

Mission:

We work to inspire and enable everyone in Scotland to put children and young people's human rights at the heart of everything they do.

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Webinar aims

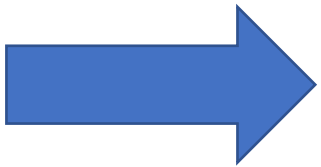
- **Information gathering** for Together's report to the UN.
- Identifying **key priorities** for our advocacy.
- A chance to learn from the experiences of other organisations and individuals.

What we'll cover...

- Presentation on the UN's children's rights reporting cycle - **Together**
- Keynote address – **Bruce Adamson, Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland**
- Q&A
- Screen break
- Breakout room discussion with partner organisations
- Feedback from discussions



Reporting to the United Nations



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The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child



UNCRC Reporting Cycle



What impact has members' evidence had in the past?



mosquito devices

sibling contact

educational attainment

child poverty

mental health

mental health

In 2016, the UN Committee made 150 recommendations to improve children's rights, informed by the views of children, young people and Together members across Scotland.

Gypsy/Traveller children

families affected by imprisonment

2016 Concluding Observations – what progress?

2017	Stop and Search	Prohibit the use of non-statutory stop and search.
2017	Stop and Search	End stop of search of children for alcohol.
2019 (<i>enacted 2020</i>)	Equal Protection	Prohibit the use of all physical punishment.
2019 (<i>enacted 2021</i>)	Age of Criminal Responsibility	Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility.
2021 (<i>yet to be enacted</i>)	UNCRC Incorporation	Ensure UNCRC is directly applicable and justiciable in law.
2021 (<i>yet to be enacted</i>)	Child Rights Impact Assessments	Introduce statutory obligation to conduct CRIA.
Ongoing	Participation	Establish structures for the children's participation in laws, policies and services.
To do	Mosquito Devices	Ban the use of mosquito devices (repeated from 2008).
To do	Religious Observance	Allow children to exercise the right to withdraw from religious worship at school.

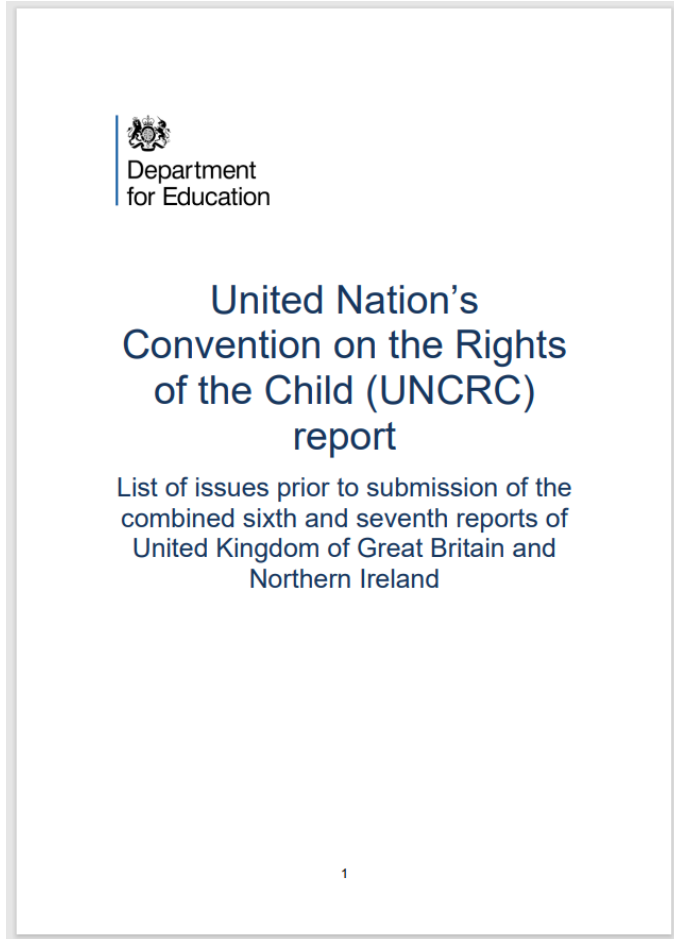
Together's 2020 Report

- Suggested 30 topics that UN Committee should include in its list of questions to the UK.
- Drew upon evidence from:
 - 500+ webinar participants
 - 60+ organisations

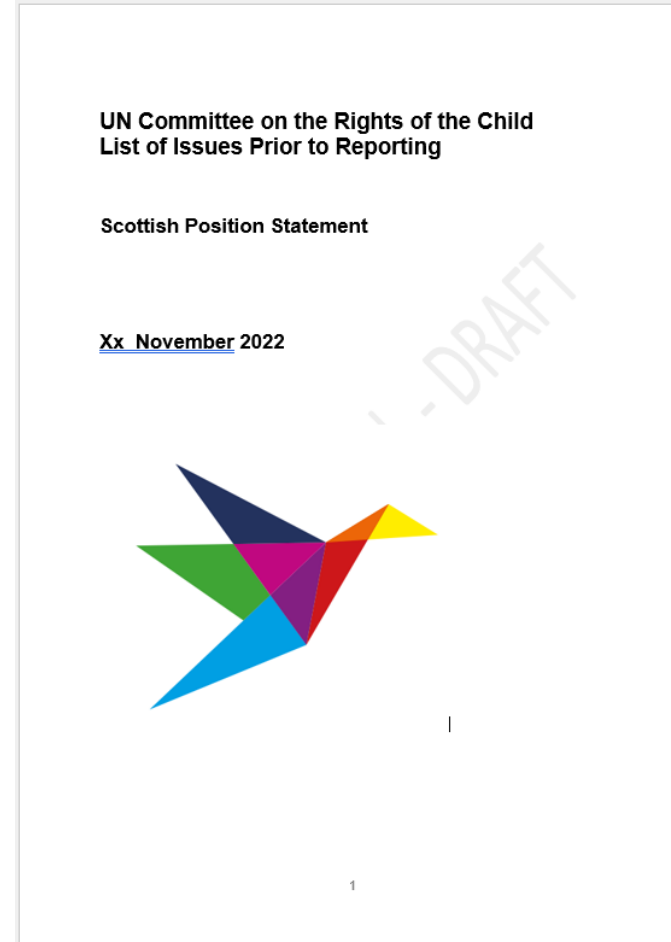
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Official responses



[Access the report here.](#)



Expected November 2022

Survey responses: children

“some kids don't live in a safe enough environment”

“many children throughout their life are experiencing horrible situations”

“Generally, I feel that after a decade or 2 of progress, we are in the middle of the 'backlash'. Which is not great!”

“some children struggle with getting the right education as they may need to support others within their life meaning they cannot focus on their self”

“Children need to be supported by governments. 'You can judge a country by the way it looks after it's young'... “

“not being taken seriously or being listened to as we are not "adults"”

Together's shadow report

- Draft report shared with members – November 2022
- Together will submit its shadow report to the UN in **December 2022**. Public launch in January 2023.
- Pre-session with UN Committee in Geneva – **February 2023**.
- Session between the UN Committee and UK delegation in Geneva – **May 2023**.

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Thank you!



Questions and comments?



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